Summary

This book is about a baseball fan, Ray Kinsella, who owns a farm in Iowa. One day he is thinking about the players his father used to tell him about, like Shoeless Joe Jackson and the unlucky eight, who were banned from baseball for betting against their own team in the 1919 World Series. As he was thinking, a voice said, “If you build it, he will come.” This means that if he builds a baseball park, Shoeless Joe will come to play in it, even though it is years after his death in the time of this story. He does this despite his wife’s attempts to stop him, and the unlucky eight come to play on his field. More messages from the voice lead him to travel to New Hampshire and Minnesota to bring the author, J.D. Salinger, and a former baseball player, Moonlight Graham, to his farm to see the field and fulfill his dream.

Character Description

Ray Kinsella is an avid baseball fan who owns a farm in Iowa. He grew up in Montana and has a wife, Annie, and a daughter, Karin. He does whatever he is told by a mysterious voice to fulfill his dream of having the unlucky eight play at his park. He is very instinctual and impulsive in his decisions because he does whatever the voice tells him to do.

Theme

If you do what is necessary to fulfill your dreams, they will come true.

Recommendation

This is a book for fans of baseball who like books of the adventure or magical realism genre.